

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing below of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A rain gutter end cap comprising:

a) an end panel having an inner surface and an outer surface and including a perimeter having a predetermined shape;

b) first connection means carried by the end panel for connecting the end cap with an end of a gutter, wherein the first connection means includes an outer peripheral wall extending laterally outwardly from the inner face of the end panel and an inner peripheral wall extending laterally outwardly from the inner face of the end panel and positioned inwardly of the outer peripheral wall to define therebetween a slot for receiving an end of a gutter; and

c) second connection means carried by the end panel and including at least one aperture extending through the end panel for receiving a connecting member for connecting the end cap with a support bracket carried within the gutter.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): An end cap in accordance with claim 2 1, wherein the outer peripheral wall defines an end cap top wall, an end cap rear wall, an end cap bottom wall, and an end cap front wall.

Claim 4 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 3, wherein the outer peripheral wall is substantially continuous.

Claim 5 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 4, wherein the outer peripheral wall and the inner peripheral wall are substantially perpendicular to the end panel inner surface.

Claim 6 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 5, wherein the inner peripheral wall extends laterally outwardly from the end panel inner surface a greater distance than the outer peripheral wall

Claim 7 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 4, wherein the outer peripheral wall includes a gap between the end cap top wall and the end cap rear wall to receive a gutter rear wall panel portion.

Claim 8 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 3, wherein the inner peripheral wall extends substantially along and parallel to the end cap front wall, the end cap bottom wall, and the end cap rear wall.

Claim 9 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 8, wherein the inner peripheral wall extends along the end cap rear wall from a point between the end cap top wall and the end cap bottom wall, along the end cap bottom wall, and along the end cap front wall to a point between the end cap top wall and the end cap bottom wall.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~An end cap in accordance with claim 4~~ A rain gutter end cap comprising:

a) an end panel having an inner surface and an outer surface and including a perimeter having a predetermined shape to correspond with the shape of an end of a gutter trough that includes an overlying gutter cover;

b) first connection means carried by the end panel for connecting the end cap with the end of the gutter trough; and

c) second connection means carried by the end panel for connecting the end cap with a support bracket carried within the gutter trough, wherein the second connection means includes a projection extending outwardly from the end panel inner surface for contacting the support bracket.

Claim 12 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 11, wherein the projection includes a passageway for receiving a connecting member that interconnects the end cap with the support bracket.

Claim 13 (original): An end cap in accordance with claim 11, wherein the projection terminates in a connector engageable with the support bracket.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A rain gutter end cap for closing an end of a gutter that includes a gutter trough and a gutter cover that overlies and blocks entry into the gutter trough, said end cap comprising: a first, gutter-trough closure region for blocking ~~water flow from a gutter~~ trough end, and a second, ~~above-trough~~ closure region positioned above the first closure region for blocking entry of debris into the gutter between a the gutter trough and an the overlying gutter cover panel.